

# Community Linkages Action Team

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**Co-Chairs**

## SMART Goals

Increase engagement of persons with mental illness in **employment, education, or other vocational-related activities**

- Begin implementation of the IPS Supported Employment model.
- Establish a partnership with service providers, relevant government agencies, and employers to address barriers to employment for persons with mental illness.
- Implement CRS to obtain support for evidence-based employment practices.
- Utilize Medicaid-supported benefits to assist persons in job and school readiness and employment and education support.
- Work with the Social Security Administration to develop a strategy to address concerns regarding loss of benefits due to employment.
- Leverage existing partnerships with employers and schools to create expanded options.
- Align employment efforts with the expansion of Certified Peer Specialist network.
- Involve public/private employers & employment assistance providers in stigma reduction.
- Fund a job creation project using Milwaukee County CDBG dollars.

Improve access to **recovery-oriented supportive housing** for persons with mental illness who are homeless or inadequately housed

- Organize existing supportive housing resources into a flexible continuum that is responsive to individual needs.
- Develop the role of the Community Intervention Specialist in assisting with access to housing and retention in housing for people at risk.
- Develop, pilot, and implement an intervention approach to provide additional provider, peer, and family support services for those at risk of housing loss.
- Improve the capability of supportive housing to provide person-centered, co-occurring capable services in partnership with MC3.
- Develop new housing options specifically for young adults transitioning from foster care.
- Advocate for increased Section 8 and other housing supports.
- Partner with nonprofit & private housing developers, WHEDA, banks, County & City housing trust funds, and other stakeholders to develop new supportive housing.

Improve criminal justice and mental health system collaboration to **reduce inappropriate incarceration** of people with mental illness

- Monitor the development of the data link project being implemented by the Milwaukee County Community Justice Council and offer assistance when appropriate.
- Participate in efforts to promote diversion of persons with mental health needs, such as a mental health court and other evidence-based practices.

## Comments, Suggestions, Questions?

*Write anywhere.*

## Relevant Progress

Community Intervention Specialist position

Community Justice Council analysis of high utilizers in MH & law enforcement

Pathways to Permanent Housing opened in June 2013

Implementation of Individual Placement & Support (IPS) employment model

10% increase in Supportive Housing from 2012 to 2013

Housing & services for youth aging out of foster care (Clarke Square neighborhood)

